

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2002-243

VERIZON-MAINE
Proposed Tariff to Introduce the Rules,
Regulations, and Related Terms and
Conditions Pertaining to the Ordering
And Provisioning of Dark Fiber as an
Unbundled Network Element

May 28, 2003

PROCEDURAL ORDER

On May 23, 2003, Staff issued Data Request No. 4 to Verizon requesting "Serving Wire Center Fiber Layout Maps"¹ for six exchanges. The purpose of the request was to obtain route information for interoffice fiber so that when Staff reviewed the cable plats for the same six exchanges, we could focus on the fiber routes only. Learning the names of the streets the fiber follows would allow use of Verizon's online version of the plats to identify all plats which reference a particular street, thereby substantially lowering the number of plats that need to be reviewed. None of this would be necessary if Verizon had fully answered previous requests to provide a complete accounting of the fiber leaving one office and ultimately, in total or in part, reaching a second central office.

Verizon now objects to Data Request No. 4 on the grounds of relevance and claiming that the documentation requested does not exist. Verizon has requested an opportunity to file formal objections. Verizon may do so on or before **May 29, 2003**. Other parties may file comments on or before **June 2, 2003**. CLECs are requested to advise the Commission as to whether they have requested and obtained from Verizon "Service Wire Center Fiber Layout Maps" for any of the exchanges listed in Data Request No. 4 and whether they would be willing to provide the Commission with copies. A discovery conference call will be held at **2:00 pm on June 4, 2003**, using the PUC telebridge: 305-503-1853, pin 969.

In the interests of time, Staff provides the following guidance to Verizon. First, the availability of dark fiber in Maine and how Verizon characterizes whether fiber is available has been an issue since Verizon's 271 proceeding in January 2002. It is an issue that will continue to be pursued in this proceeding and thus objections on the basis of relevance will likely be overruled. Second, if Verizon has a better, more efficient way to provide Staff with the information it seeks, i.e. a complete accounting of the fiber on each of the 3 identified routes (Richmond-Bowdoinham, Dover-Foxcroft – Corinth, and Waterville-Augusta),

¹The term used in the data request is taken from Verizon's proposed dark fiber tariff and should be given the meaning provided in the tariff.

including any fibers that are spun off the interoffice spans and are either left unterminated or are used for distribution services, Verizon should specify how and when it can provide that information in its May 29th filing (keeping in mind the Commission would like to hold hearing and reach a final decision in this matter this summer.)

BY ORDER OF THE HEARING EXAMINER

Trina M. Bragdon